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I hereby certify under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated above and is addressed to Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Raouf Rekik

Art Unit:

1614

Serial No.:

10/018,235

Examiner:

K. Weddington

Filed:

May 22, 2002

Customer No.:

21559

Title:

NEUROPROTECTIVE AND RETINOPROTECTIVE

OPTHALMOLOGIC DRUGS

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, applicant hereby petitions that the period for replying to the Office action that was mailed in connection with the above-captioned application on June 22, 2004 be extended for one month, to and including October 22, 2004.

10/27/2004 AWDNDAF1 00000013 10018235

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55.00 OP

Enclosed is a check for \$55.00 for the fee required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a). If there are any other charges or any credits, please apply them to Deposit Account No. 03-2095.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 27, 2004

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